

- (c) a DNA related to the DNA from (a) or (b) via the degenerated genetic code.
14. DNA according to claim 3, comprising the base sequence of figure 2.
 15. Expression plasmid comprising the DNA according to claim 3 or 4.
 16. Transformant containing the expression plasmid according to claim 5.
 17. A method of producing the protein according to claim 1 or 2, comprising the culturing of the transformant according to claim 6 under suitable conditions.
 18. Antibodies directed against the protein according to claim 1 or 2.
 19. Use of the protein according to claim 1 or 2 as a reagent for inhibiting apoptosis.
 20. Use of the DNA according to claim 3 or 4 as a reagent for diagnosis and/or inhibition of apoptosis.
 21. Use according to claim 9 or 10, wherein apoptosis-inhibition is effected in the case of AIDS or neurodegenerative diseases. --

REMARKS

Pursuant to a telephone conversation with Mrs. Vonda Wallace on December 1, 1999, in which she indicated that she would not be able to enter the Article 34 Amendment because the English translation of the original specification contained the claims on the same page as the final example, and to replace this last page of the original English translation with the new Article 34 claims would necessitate deleting the final example from the Application. Accordingly, Applicants have cancelled original claims 1-10 and replaced them with new claims 11-22, which are identical to claims 1-11 of the Article 34 Amendment.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, the Applicants believe that the application is in good and proper condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to

call the undersigned at (650) 463-8109.

Respectfully submitted,

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